

REMARKS

Claims 1 -4, as amended still remain in this application.

The specification has been corrected in the manner suggested by the Examiner and it is believed all the inadvertent errors have been cured. The patent number has been added and the Abstract has been change to reflect that the elected claims are drawn to the construction or fabrication of the fixed stator vanes.

It is believed that the objections raised with respect to claims 1-4 have been cured by the amendment thereto and the 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph rejection should be withdrawn.

Reconsideration of the rejection of claims 1-4 as being anticipated by Rateau et al (814,804) and not being in compliance with 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) is respectfully requested.

The '804 reference relates to the method of fabricating turbine blades by forming from a blank a U-shaped member with each leg of the U being a vane. The bottom portion of the U is cut away and the member is attached to a shroud. The vanes are ultimately formed in a ring and are circumferentially spaced. In contrast applicant's construction is to form the vanes and the sacrificial portion in a ring. The ring is sandwiched between side plates and the remaining portion are the circumferential spaced vanes sandwiched between the side plates with the sacrificial portion removed. The vanes of the present invention are not formed two at a time as is taught by the cited reference. It is clear and obvious that the methods of fabrication as disclosed in the cited reference and this application are entirely different. Applicant's construction is not as complicated and cumbersome as shown in the cited reference, namely by making two blades at a time and then assembling all of the two blade sub-assemblies into a circular ring until the ring is complete with circumferentially spaced vanes.

With respect to Fig. 2 Applicant disagrees with the Examiner inasmuch as it is believed that the structure shown in Fig. 2 in the '804 reference is not a teaching of the linear configuration. It is believed that this Fig. merely shows how the U-shaped members can be stamped out from a flat elongated sheet and that it is made this way for production purposes. Each oblong blank is then bent into the U-shape to form a pair of vanes that eventually is placed in a circular (not linear) shroud.

In view of the foregoing, it is believed that this application is in condition for allowance and

the allowance thereof is respectfully requested

A change of address is enclosed for the purpose of changing the location where correspondence should be mailed.

Respectively submitted,

WILLIAM F. BEACOM

By 
Norman Friedland
Attorney of Record
(Reg. No. 20,070)

Norman Friedland
2855 PGA Boulevard
Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410
(561) 626-4111
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